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FRIDAY MORNING ···· MARCH 12, 1861

Editor JOHN D. & D. N. FENNO. A. V.

W. J. SUTTAGE. Editor and Proprietor

MR. GRANT'S RESIGNATION.

WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE TUESDAY AFTERNOON RECEIPE OF MR. GRANT WILL BE DISMISSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

SPEAKER BLAINE'S RESIGNATION.

Speaker Blaine's next reception will be on Friday evening, March 18th, from 9 to 11 o'clock.

AMERICA AND RUSSIA.

The Letter of the Imperial Minister, C. Catasay, to Hon. G. M. Clay, on the Subject of the Russian Protection Claim—As Applied to Mr. Perkins by the Russian Minister.

In our issue of the 14th instant we stated our views on the subject of the Clay-Catasay correspondence, attacking the policy of our Government in its efforts to support the claims of American citizens against the Russian Government. We then occasioned our remarks principally to Mr. Clay, and endeavored to show how totally uncalled for and unwarranted on principle his letter to Mr. Catasay was, and stated we would make the letter of Mr. Catasay to Mr. Clay the subject of a third and second editorial; this is so, because the two letters can be treated separately, for they are so obviously the result of a concerted plan, and hence are so absolutely parts of each other that we are to some extent bound to include both when speaking of one.

In what we shall now attempt to say in reference to Mr. Catasay, we will strive to remember that we are speaking of the accredited representative of a great nation and people, and a proud Imperial Autocratic government, whose sensibilities we do not wish to wound; but we shall at the same time not fail to remember that we are Americans, proud of our Government, and ever ready to justify it and to support its policy in protecting the rights of our people, and that in all matters of our Government, we have investigated and carefully decided upon the facts, and the law applicable to such facts, according to the principles of American Independence, we shall ever stand by and support that opinion as against the opinion of any foreign government. Keeping in view, as we shall aim to do, the position and attitude of the two Governments, and parties as above indicated, we will now proceed with our review of the letter of the Imperial Minister, Mr. C. Catasay.

In an editorial of the 14th instant, we stated that the letters of Mr. Clay and Mr. Catasay were so remarkable that to be fully appreciated they must be carefully studied and analyzed. We now add that the more we look at Mr. Catasay's letter to Mr. Clay the more remarkable it becomes, and when tried by the information existing in the Department of State it assumes the attitude of nothing more nor less than a sanguine fabrication and pretense, composed of an ingeniously combined perversion and suppression of facts, proven, in the case and an attack upon the character of Mr. Perkins and all his business, and a covert attack upon the decision and action of the Government of the United States.

Mr. Catasay, in response to Mr. Clay, thus writes as follows:

"Washington, March 4, 1861.—Sir:—I am extremely obliged to you for your kind letter, and the information wherewith you cause me to the spontaneous expression of my opinion in relation to the so-called Perkins claim."

This "spontaneous expression of opinion" by Mr. Clay, certainly entitles him to the Russian Minister's thanks, and when given "in relation to the so-called Perkins claim," makes this "spontaneous expression of opinion" the more valuable, because, as Mr. Catasay next says to Mr. Clay:

"Your testimony in this matter is enhanced by the fact that the late representative of the United States to Russia, Mr. F. W. Brewster, you have been officially connected with the Russian Government with its real merits. You yourself are the most scrupulous care and fairness in the Imperial Government in the investigation of this claim, as well as its treatment, to pay every farthing alleged to be due, if found to be due, to the principles of law, or equity."

The extent to which Mr. Clay, the late representative of the United States at the Court of St. Petersburg, became fully conversant with the real merits of the claim, appears in one light in his very able dispatch to the Imperial Minister of the 11th of April, 1860, which we published in our issue of the 11th instant! It is, however, Mr. Clay supplied "the Court of St. Petersburg" or its Imperial Minister, Mr. Catasay, here with a different sort of views than those we published, as above stated, it simply follows that the Russian Government has been to that extent more favored than the American Government in the present. But we see that Mr. Catasay then says to Mr. Clay, "You certainly know with what scrupulous care and fairness the Imperial Government has proceeded in the investigation of the claim." Mr. Clay when did this "spontaneous and fair" investigation take place? It was surely not previous to the 11th of April, 1860, or since the date of dispatch of Mr. Clay's letter, that date, before, after, or during, traveling to this country, had any such care, that the impulsion is obvious to the law and judicial proceedings of the United States; and we contend that the administration of justice in America, both to us and to others, has been far more favorable to us than to any other nation.

Mr. Catasay here presents a statement that a letter has been received, asking that the Russian Government shall purchase the said artificial limbs on the ground that a Russian surgeon had examined them; and another, "widow" claims, \$300,000 for a torpedo, the drawings of which had been examined by a Russian naval officer; and having presented these two propositions, he puts forth this inquiry:

"Can there be no rational explanation for a man to demand that the same that cost him will be paid him, and that the same that cost him will be given him?"

"Unfortunately these facts are not known, and both in private and official circles the Russian Government has proceeded in the examination of the facts in the case, and the principles of law, so pointedly stated by Mr. Clay, would not have been written. The sense of that noted dispatch proves that the "investigation" made by the Imperial Government was neither "scrupulous" nor "fair," but was marked with just the reverse of these qualities, which import such a nice diplomatic order to Mr. Catasay's letter for the public, addressed to Mr. Clay, now under consideration.

If this examination of such "scrupulous fairness" has not taken place at the date of Mr. Clay's dispatch and protest above stated, when did it take place? Before asking this question, we have given to the Department of State to show that such examination ever occurred. The object of Mr. Brewster's dispatch of the 16th of October, 1860, was, as appears on his face, to secure just such a trial as Mr. Catasay maintains, but whilst Mr. Clay's dispatch of the 11th of April, 1860, shows an absolute refusal, therefore he enters his protest, reserving to the United States Government such future action as it might deem proper in the premises. After the date of this dispatch the files of the State Department only show that one or two reports were made to open the investigation at St. Petersburg, but which was refused, and there is no other "investigation" known to the Government of the United States.

Besides the question of the time when this investigation was made by the Imperial Government, as alleged by Mr. Catasay, we should like to know what facts were considered? Whose testimony was heard? And, who acted as judge? The force of these questions will also appear, when we state that papers filed in the State Department tend to show that Mr. Catasay had never seen the printed record of the case until since his arrival in the United States in September last, and declared that the Imperial Government never had been supplied with one. Now, it will be seen by Mr. Brewster's dispatch of October, 1860, that a copy of the record, printed in French and English, was forwarded to the Imperial Government, in that, and in other forms. Then, that record is not to be found there, and was never seen by Mr. Catasay until he came

to this country, we should like to know what sort of a case was examined by its action, and public sentiment will support our Government.

Regarding the so-called "investigation" had nothing there was not the slightest foundation for the claims advanced by the parties. Since the widow Perkins, you become aware that the Imperial Government devoted to the defense of the widow Perkins, the reference of the question to arbitration.

Here we have the reiterated statement of "Investigation" by a "committee" appointed for that purpose; and it appears by the documents in the State Department that Mr. Catasay claims to have been one of that "committee," and while acting as judge, it also appears from the same source as stated, that Mr. Catasay never saw the record and proofs of the "claims of the relatives of the widow Perkins" until since his arrival in this country. We thus see that a claim proven according to our laws, carelessly examined by the United States Government, with all the proofs before it, is deemed to be valid, legal and just, is by an "Imperial Committee," of which Mr. Catasay was one, pronounced to be a "bulletin of protection." We should therefore like to know upon what basis of proof Mr. Catasay ventures to make such assertions as seriously reflecting either the intelligence or the integrity of our Government. We think that Mr. Catasay gives it to the government of the United States to state what these facts are, and that our Government should require him to go to St. Petersburg to ascertain the truth.

Now we have the reiterated statement of "bulletin of protection" mentioned by Mr. Catasay, to the effect that the "claims of the relatives of the widow Perkins" will still be his to the end of the year, and while acting as judge, it is also apparent from the same source as stated, that Mr. Catasay never saw the record and proofs of the "claims of the relatives of the widow Perkins" until since his arrival in this country. We thus see that a claim proven according to our laws, carelessly examined by the United States Government, with all the proofs before it, is deemed to be valid, legal and just, is by an "Imperial Committee," of which Mr. Catasay was one, pronounced to be a "bulletin of protection."

This discrimination in favor of the "bulletin of protection" mentioned by Mr. Catasay, is no less than the same source as stated, that Mr. Catasay claims to have been one of that "committee," and while acting as judge, it also appears from the same source as stated, that Mr. Catasay never saw the record and proofs of the "claims of the relatives of the widow Perkins" until since his arrival in this country. We thus see that a claim proven according to our laws, carelessly examined by the United States Government, with all the proofs before it, is deemed to be valid, legal and just, is by an "Imperial Committee," of which Mr. Catasay was one, pronounced to be a "bulletin of protection."

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